punishment under section 509 of IPC Which deals with intend to insult the modesty of women; and

(d) if so, what action the Ministry has taken on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The Law Commission of India has recommended changes for widening the scope of offence in section 375 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and to make it gender neutral. Various other changes have been recommended in sections 376, 376A to 376D. The Commission has also recommended insertion of a new section 376E dealing with unlawful sexual contact, deletion of section 377 of the IPC and enhancement of punishment in section 509 of IPC. Various changes in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have also been recommended.

(d) State Governments have been requested for their views on the recommendations of the Law Commission of India as the Criminal Law is on the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

Alleged links between Naxalites and ISI Agencies

1119. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Home Ministry is aware of the press reports from Midnapur in West Bengal on alleged links between naxalites and Pakistan intelligence agency ISI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Home Ministry is also aware of the links between the naxalities and the militant groups of North East and Sri Lanka; and

(d) if so, the details of the nexus and steps to prevent their combined operation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a)
and (b) In the absence of details regarding the newspaper and the

date on which the press reports were published, it has not been possible to verify the facts in this regard. However, there are no confirmed reports regarding links between naxalites and Pakistan ISI.

(c) and (d) There are no confirmed reports to indicate links between the naxalites and the militant groups of North East and Sri Lanka. However, Government is aware of the attempts begin made by various terrorist outfits in the country to forge links with each other and a close watch is kept on the situation in this regard.

"Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects. In the circumstances, the concerned State Government has to devise various measures and take concrete steps to curb left wing extremist / ISI activities in the State. However, keeping in view the overall dimension which left wing extremism has assumed in some States, it has become a matter of concern for the Central Government as well. It has, therefore, set up a high level Coordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the seriously affected States as its members, to review and coordinate steps taken by these States to check the left wing extremist activities, monitor the plan of action in respect of each State and make recommendations both on development and security aspects of the problem.

Implementation status of MNES programmes in Assam

1120. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) implementation status of various programmes of his Ministry in Assam during last three years indicating total allocation and actual utilization, year-wise against specific schemes through Government agencies and NGOs;

(b) the details of proposals received from NGOs and Government agencies, showing status of sanction and allocation made during the current financial year against each agency; and

(c) the details of the future targets set and implementation agencies to be decided?